

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

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DRAFTED BY EA/VLC:JDROSENTHAL/FMLC

APPROVED BY EA:RHMILLER

EA/EX:RSCARRITT

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P 062251Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ABLD, AFSP, LA, US

SUBJECT:REPLY TO CIRCULAR NOTE ON HOUSING

REF: A) VIENTIANE 1497; B) VIENTIANE 1569

1. YOU SHOULD GO AHEAD WITH NOTE TO FOREIGN MINISTRY AS PROPOSED IN PARA 3 OF REF A, USING FOLLOWING SLIGHTLY REVISED TEXT.

2. BEGIN QUOTE:.....AND HAS THE HONOR TO REFER TO THE MINISTRY'S NOTE NO. 1263/AE.PROT OF JUNE 22, 1976 CONCERNING THE CREATION OF DIPLOMATIC QUARTERS AT VIENTIANE. THE MINISTRY'S NOTE RAISES CERTAIN QUESTIONS ON WHICH THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING THE MINISTRY'S VIEWS.

3. IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE NOTE, IT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL FOR THE EMBASSY TO KNOW PRECISELY WHAT THE BOUNDARIES ARE OF THE AREAS MENTIONED IN THE MINISTRY'S NOTE: SISANGVONE, SOKPALOUANG, WAT NAK, PHONE KHENG, THAT LUANG AND WATTAY.

4. MOREOVER, BECAUSE THE EMBASSY HAS A NUMBER OF EXISTING

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LONG-TERM RENTAL CONTRACTS FOR HOUSES APPARENTLY OUTSIDE

THE NEW DIPLOMATIC QUARTER AND PERHAPS IN THE NEWLY-DESIGNATED ZONE OF MILITARY USE AS WELL, IT WOULD LIKE TO

KNOW WHETHER THE LAO GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO HONOR THESE CONTRACTS BETWEEN THE EMBASSY AND PRIVATE LAO LANDLORDS OR THE PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY COMMISSION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF VIENTIANE, OR WHETHER THE MINISTRY PLANS TO REQUIRE THE EMBASSY TO VACATE SUCH HOUSES BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF THESE RENTAL CONTRACTS.

5. THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE BEING ADVISED AS TO THE PRACTICAL EFFECT ON DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS OF THE DESIGNATION OF PART OF VIENTIANE AS A ZONE OF MILITARY USE, SUCH AS ACCESS BY EMBASSY PERSONNEL TO PLACES WITHIN THE ZONE.

6. THE EMBASSY ALSO NOTES THAT THE LAO GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO OCCUPY TWO COMPOUNDS OWNED BY THE EMBASSY IN THE VICINITY OF PHONE KHENG, AND NOW PRESUMABLY IN THIS NEW ZONE: ONE FORMERLY USED BY THE GENERAL SERVICES OFFICE OF THE EMBASSY'S ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION AND THE OTHER CONTAINING EIGHTEEN HOUSES FORMERLY OCCUPIED BY MEMBERS OF THE EMBASSY'S STAFF. SINCE THE LAO GOVERNMENT WISHES TO RETAIN THESE COMPOUNDS, THE EMBASSY INVITES THE MINISTRY TO ENTER INTO DISCUSSIONS WITH IT CONCERNING THE PURCHASE OF THESE PROPERTIES FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. (COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE). END QUOTE.

7. FYI: WE PRESUME OUR REVISED WORDING OF YOUR QUERY, RE THE PRACTICAL EFFECT OF THE MILITARY ZONE DESIGNATION FOLLOWS YOUR MEANING. IF THIS NOT THE CASE, YOU MAY DELETE OR REVISE AS YOU SEE FIT. END FYI. ROBINSON

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## Message Attributes

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